

Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCCT-01 SY-05 SCS-03 SCA-01

OPR-02 /071 W

----- 023574

O 071800Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4266

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF AEP MISSIONARY DONALD LUTES IS STILL
BEING DETAINED BY THE MPLA, BUT HAS BEEN MOVED TO LUANDA.
MPLA HAS PROMISED TO RELEASE HIM IMMEDIATELY. END SUMMARY.

2. IN LUANDA'S 1418, I REPORTED MY INITIAL ACTION UPON
LEARNING OF THE DETENTION BY MPLA OF AEP MISSIONARY DONALD
LUTES, A CANADIAN CITIZEN, IN SA DA BANDEIRA AND THE
MISTREATMENT OF HIS ASSOCIATE, WILLIAM BRANDLE, A SWISS MARRIED
TO AN AMERICAN. BEFORE I COULD MAKE DEFINITIVE ARRANGEMENTS TO
GO TO SA DA BANDEIRA, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ASKED ME NOT TO GO.
HE SAID HE WAS TAKING A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE MATTER. I ALSO
ASKED THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS TO INVESTIGATE THE CASE. AN ICRC
DELEGATION WAS IN SA DA BANDEIRA LAST WEEK AND MADE OFFICIAL
REPRESENTATION TO MPLA BUT WAS NOT ABLE TO SEE LUTES.

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3. ON OCTOBER 6 HIGH COMMISSIONER ADMIRAL CARDOS TOLD ME THAT

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE INTERIOR, HENRIQUE SANTOS HAD REPORTED TO HIM THAT LUTES WAS INDEED BEING HELD BY THE MPLA ON SUSPICION OF ESPIONAGE AND HAD BEEN MOVED TO LUANDA. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IMMEDIATELY WROTE OUT A DEMAND FOR THE RELEASE OF LUTES AND POINTED OUT IN HIS NOTE, ADDRESSED TO THE MPLA POLITICAL BUREAU, THAT AS LUTES IS A FOREIGN NATIONAL ONLY THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT HAS JURISDICTION OVER HIM; NEITHER THE MPLA NOR ANY OTHER LIBERATION GROUP HAS THE AUTHORITY TO DETAIN HIM. MPLA'S PRIME MINISTER LOPO DO NASCIMENTO, CALLED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER EARLY ON OCTOBER 7 TO SAY THAT HE WOULD PERSONALLY UNDERTAKE TO SEE THAT LUTES WAS RELEASED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WHEN I TOLD THE ADMIRAL THAT I WANTED TO SEE LUTES, HE SUGGESTED THAT I GET IN TOUCH DIRECTLY WITH NASCIMENTO, WHICH I AM NOW ATTEMPTING TO DO SO.

4. WITH RESPECT TO BRANDLE, SANTOS TOLD THE HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT HE IS COMPLETELY FREE AND THAT HE CAN HAVE HIS CAR BACK. CARDOSO HAS SENT A MESSAGE TO THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY IN SA DA BANDEIRA DIRECTING THEM TO ACCOMPANYING BRANDLE TO THE MPLA HEADQUARTERS TO RETRIEVE THE VEHICLE.

5. MPLA OFFICIALS WITH WHOM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS TALKED SAY THAT LUTES IS DETAINED UNDER SUSPICION OF ESPIONAGE BECAUSE OF THE RADIO TRANSMITTER HE SET UP RECENTLY IN SA DA BANDEIRA. ON OCTOBER 7 I RECEIVED A NUMBER OF LETTERS FROM LUTES, DELIVERED BY HAND, OF WHICH, DATED OCTOBER 1, HE GIVES THE BACKGROUND

TO THE SETTING UP ON THE RADIO NET. IN ANOTHER LETTER, DATED SEPTEMBER

26, HE ALSO DESCRIBES THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT LED TO THE RADIO NET.

6. IN A LETTER DATED OCTOBER 3, LUTES ASKED THAT I SEND THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAMS FOR HIM. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF AF/C COULD TRANSCRIBE THE MESSAGE AND SEND THEM ON.

A. TO "THIELE, 11 LYDIA STREET, KITCHNER ONTARIO, CANADA. MISSION LOOTED DON HELD INCOMMUNICADO SINCE SEPTEMBER 15. FORENCE RECUPERATING FROM SHOCK. BOTH PHYSICALLY OK. RESTING IN CHRIST. MAILS INTERCEPTED. ADVISE SUPPORTERS TO MAIL NOTHING VALUABLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND TO PRAY . LUTES."

B. TO "FELLOWSHIP, READING, ENGLAND. SITUATION UNCHANGED. MAILS NOW INTERCEPTED. LUTES." KILLORAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, LIBERATION FRONTS, ARRESTS, POLITICAL CRIMES, MISSIONARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LUANDA01505
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750348-0345
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2003
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006